

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

September 5, 2012

Linda S. Lee
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915 W. State Street, 3-363 Lilly Hall
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2054

Dear Professor Lee,

SUBJECT: SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED BASIN PLAN
AMENDMENT TO ADOPT TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY FOR TOXICITY AND
PESTICIDES IN THE SANTA MARIA WATERSHED

Thank you for agreeing to be our scientific peer reviewer for the above referenced Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). The eventual outcome of these projects will be a Regional and State Board Hearing to approve a Basin Plan Amendments to establish and implement the above referenced TMDLs.

This letter is intended to initiate the next phase of the external review – the actual review itself.

Included in this letter are the following key documents, which are provided electronically on the electronic disc enclosed:

- a) The request for external reviewers, signed by Chris Rose (Central Coast Water Board TMDL program manager), dated June 28, 2012;
- b) January 2009 Supplement to the Cal/EPA Peer Review Guidelines;
- c) The Draft TMDL Project Report requiring your review, dated August, 2012 and entitled *"Total Maximum Daily Loads for Toxicity and Pesticides in the Santa Maria Watershed in Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura Counties, California"*
- d) Key supporting documents, including references on CD.

You likely received the above-mentioned June 28, 2012 request for external reviewers earlier during the reviewer approval process, but we are sending it again to make certain you have it. Attachment 2 of the request provides focus for the review of the

Draft TMDL Project Report; please address all topics, as expertise allows, as indicated in the June 28, 2012 request document.

The January 7, 2009 Supplement, provides guidance to ensure the review is kept confidential through its course. The Supplement notes reviewers are under no obligation to discuss their comments with third-parties after reviews have been submitted. We recommend they do not. All outside parties are provided opportunities to address a proposed regulatory action through a well-defined regulatory process. Please direct third-parties to me.

Please return your review directly to me. In accordance with State Policy, questions you may have about the review, or review material, should be for clarification, and should be submitted writing (email is fine) and addressed to me. Our responses will be in writing as well. The State Water Resources Control Board should not be contacted.

We would appreciate your review being completed by **October 10, 2012**, and we request that you send your comments to us no later than October 19, 2012.

Your acceptance of this review assignment is most appreciated. Please email me with any clarification questions during this review process at pmeertens@waterboards.ca.gov

Sincerely,

Peter Meertens
Environmental Scientist
Watershed Assessment Unit
California Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Attachments (electronic documents on enclosed electronic disc):

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